

Standing on the Shoulders of Giants: Using Project Information Literacy For Faculty Outreach

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What do you know about
Project Information Literacy?

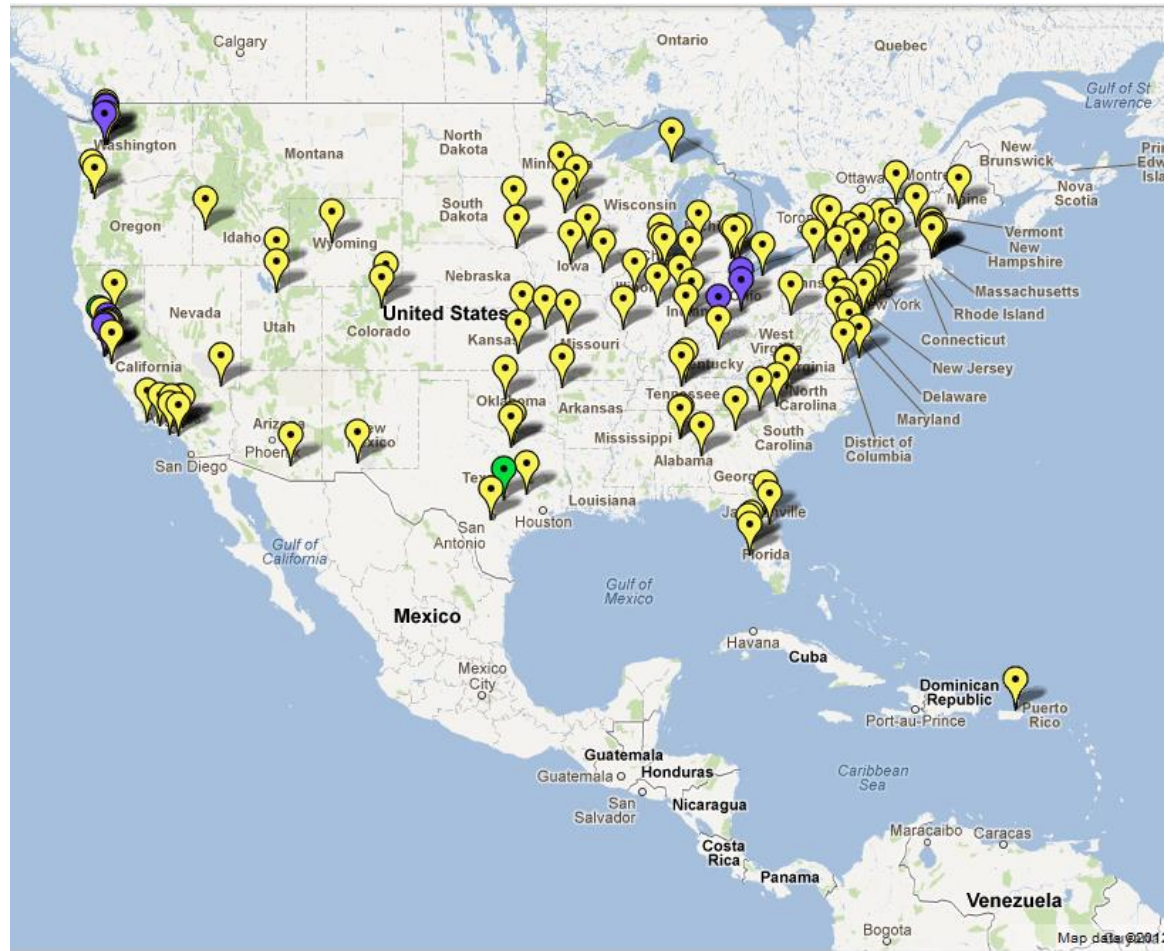


About PIL

- ▶ Started in 2008 at University of Washington
- ▶ National large scale research with college students
- ▶ Looks at community colleges, colleges, and universities (both public and private)

Institutions in the Project Information Literacy (PIL) Volunteer Study Survey

Yellow– interest in
participating
Purple –Crunch
Time Study
Green 2012 study of
students the day
after college

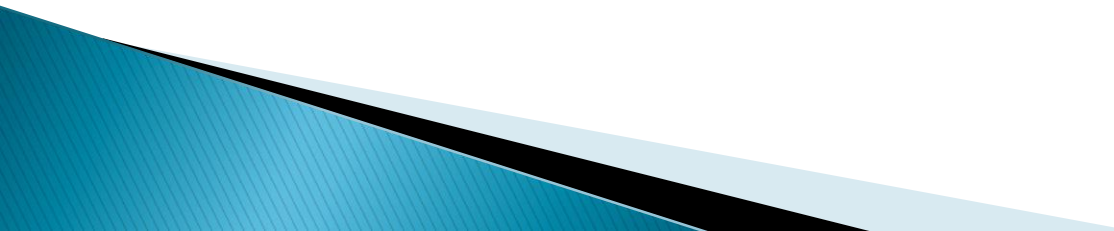


Anecdotal vs. Research


- ▶ Replacing individual viewpoints with data driven perspectives
- ▶ Supplementing traditional statistics



Research questions

- ▶ How do students find information in the digital age?
 - For course work
 - In every day lives
 - ▶ How do students evaluate and use information?
 - ▶ How do students manage technology in the library?
 - ▶ How do handouts guide college students?
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Major studies cover:

- ▶ 2009 What College Students Say about Conducting Research
 - ▶ 2009 How Students Seek Information
 - ▶ 2010 How Handouts Guide Students
 - ▶ 2010 How Students Evaluate and Use Info
 - ▶ 2011 How Students Manage Technology in the Library during Crunch Time
 - ▶ 2012 ongoing research – what happens to information seeking behavior after graduation?
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Assessing Inquiry: How Handouts for Research Assignments Guide Today's College Students

- ▶ This study analyzed 191 handouts for **course-related research papers** at 28 colleges and universities

A few notable results...

What percentage of handouts required or recommended the use of print library materials?

60%

What percentage of handouts required or recommended the use of online library sources?

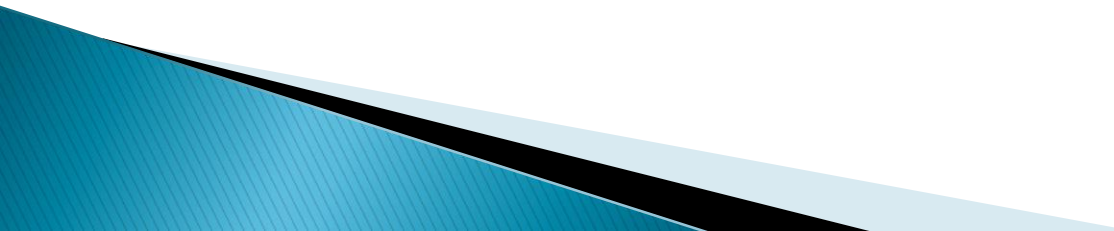
43%



One more...

What percentage of handouts required or recommended using a librarian for assistance?

13%

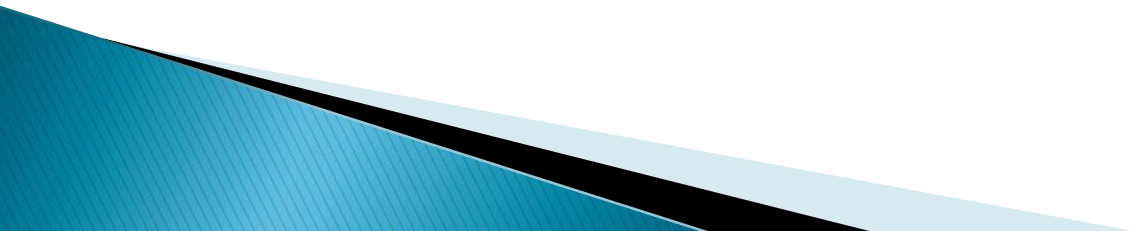


How is PIL's research applied in the trenches by librarians and educators?

- ▶ Practical methods based on research studies

How can we incorporate PIL findings into our work with students?

Let's look at a specific example...



What are the three most difficult parts of the research process?

- ▶ Getting started (84%)
- ▶ Defining a topic (66%)
- ▶ Narrowing down a topic (62%)

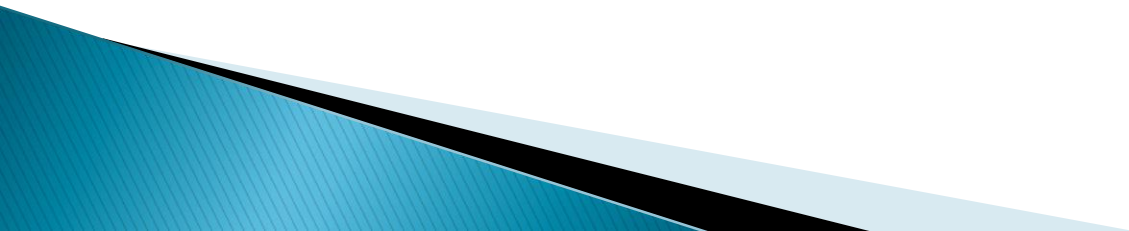
Bonus:

- ▶ Filtering irrelevant results (61%)

How can we use this finding with both students and faculty?

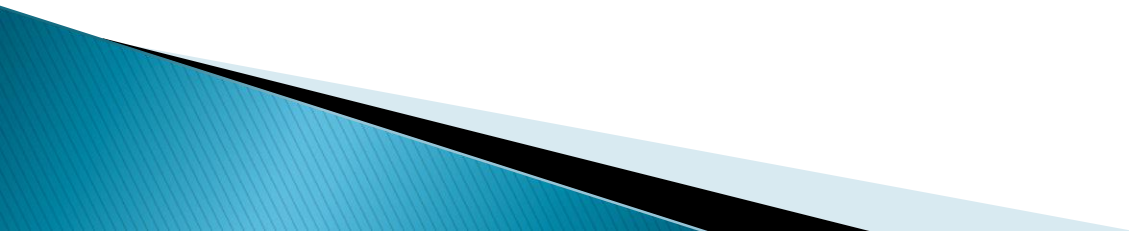
What about the other findings?

- ▶ How can we use this in our work with students (at the reference desk, in class, etc.)
- ▶ How can we use it to provide better outreach to faculty?

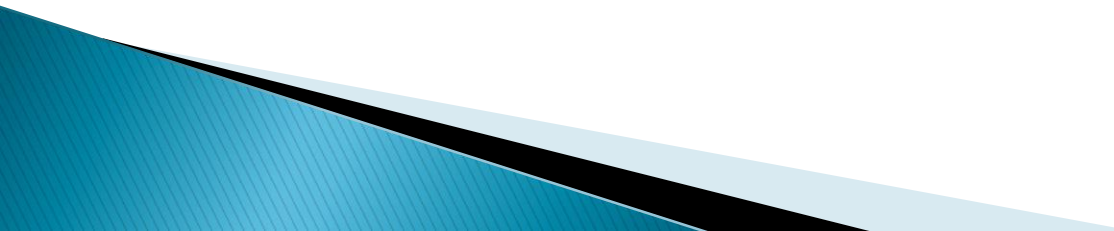


Balancing Act: How College Students Manage Technology While in the Library during Crunch Time

2011 research based on 560 interviews at 10 US colleges and universities



What did students actually do while in the library?

- ▶ Checked messages (email, Facebook, etc.) 81%
 - ▶ Prepared an assignment 73%
 - ▶ Looked for materials (includes library as well as other online and offline research) 36%
 - ▶ Met with friends or classmates 28%
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What do they do in the library?

- ▶ In the previous hour in the library how many used:
 - ❖ library technology equipment 39%
 - ❖ the library portal 21%
 - ❖ JSTOR or other databases 11%
 - ❖ library books 9%
 - ❖ the OPAC 5%
 - ❖ print journals 3%

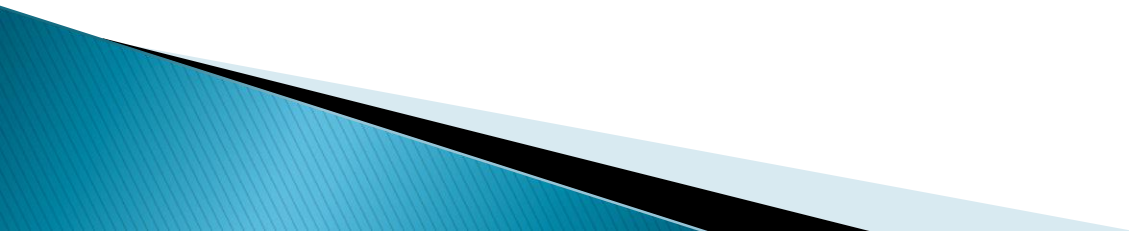


Student views of the Library:

- ▶ A place where productivity can flourish
- ▶ A place where they felt contemplative
- ▶ **Less central to student views :** the library as a vast source of information resources and supportive services



What are the implications for libraries?

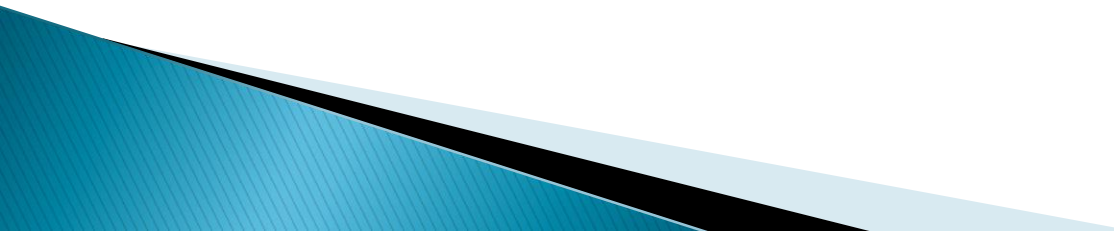


Still to come

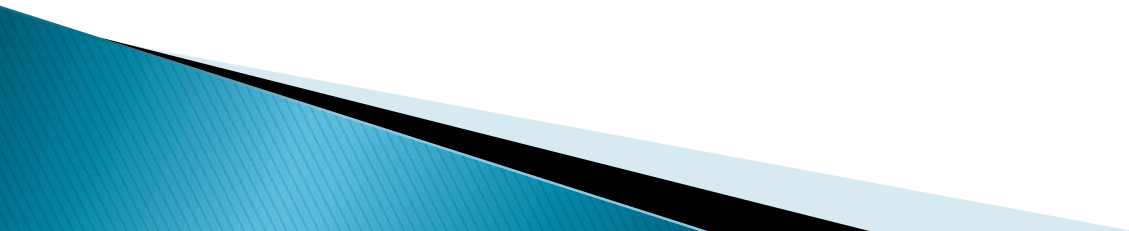
- ▶ 2012 ongoing study of information seeking after graduation



Ideas for Engaging with Faculty

- ▶ Research assignment handout workshop ([example](#))
 - ▶ Online guides ([Temple](#), [Ohio State](#))
 - ▶ What else can we do?
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Questions?



Recent References

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